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SUBJECT: IRAQ/KUWAIT MEETING IN JEDDAH

¶1. SUMMARY. LOCAL PRESS REPORT THE BEGINNING OF TALKS BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT IN JEDDAH ON JULY 31. AS ANTICIPATED, CROWN PRINCE ABDALLAH RECEIVED IRAQI VICE CHAIRMAN IBRAHIM AND THE KUWAITI CROWN PRINCE. KING FAHD RECEIVED THE TWO DELEGATION HEADS AND GAVE A DINNER IN HONOR OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS. CROWN PRINCE ABDALLAH ATTENDED THE OPENING SESSION OF THE TALKS; THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A CLOSED SESSION OF THE TWO DELEGATION HEADS ALONE. AFTER ABOUT TWO HOURS OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS JOINED. NO OFFICIAL STATEMENTS WERE MADE AFTER THE MEETINGS AND THE TALKS EVIDENTLY ARE CONTINUING ON AUGUST 1. THE FOLLOWING IS A COMPOSITE SUMMARY OF THIS MORNING'S (AUGUST 1) LOCAL PRESS REPORTING. END SUMMARY.

¶2. BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT STARTED AT THE JEDDAH CONFERENCE PALACE JULY 31, 1990. VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE IRAQI REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL IZZAT IBRAHIM LED THE IRAQI DELEGATION TO THE TALKS WHILE KUWAITI CROWN PRINCE AND PRIME MINISTER SAAD AL-ABDALLAH LED HIS COUNTRY'S TEAM. THE IRAQI TEAM COMPRISES MEMBER OF THE IRAQI RCC DR. SAADOUN HAMMADI (FORMER MINISTER OF OIL WHO PLAYED DISTINGUISHED ROLES IN FOREIGN POLICY) AND A NUMBER OF IRAQI TOP OFFICIALS. THE KUWAITI DELEGATION INCLUDES MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS NASSER AL-SABAH; MINISTER OF JUSTICE DARI ABDALLAH AL-OTHTMAN; OIL MINISTER DR. RASHID SALEM AL-OMERY AND OTHER OFFICIALS. (NEITHER KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER SABAH AL-AHMAD AL-JABER NOR HIS IRAQI COUNTERPART TARIQ AZIZ APPEARED AMONG THE TWO TEAMS.)

¶3. CROWN PRINCE ABDALLAH RECEIVED AZIZ AND SAAD AL-ABDALLAH ON THEIR ARRIVAL AT JEDDAH AIRPORT. WHILE AZIZ DID NOT MAKE ANY STATEMENT ON HIS ARRIVAL SAAD AL-ABDALLAH MADE A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID HE MUST REGISTER HIS THANKS TO THE ARAB LEADERS FOR THEIR SINCERE EFFORTS FOR CONTAINMENT OF THE TRANSIENT DISPUTE BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT. HE THANKED IN PARTICULAR KING FAHD AND MUBARAK WHO HAD PAVED THE WAY FOR THE JEDDAH MEETING. HE SAID, "I LOOK FORWARD WITH OPEN HEART TO MEETING WITH MY BROTHER IZZAT IBRAHIM AND I UNDERLINE THE INTEREST OF KUWAIT IN PARTICIPATING POSITIVELY IN THIS MEETING HOPING THAT IT WOULD CONSTITUTE A BASIC STEP TOWARD REACHING A FINAL AND JUST RESOLUTION OF ALL OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS AND ISSUES BETWEEN THE TWO BROTHERLY COUNTRIES."

¶4. KING FAHD RECEIVED IZZAT IBRAHIM AND SAAD AL-ABDALLAH IN THE PRESENCE OF CROWN PRINCE ABDALLAH WHO ATTENDED THE OPENING SESSION OF THE BILATERAL TALKS. KING FAHD WISHED THE TWO DELEGATIONS SUCCESS AND BEST WISHES.

¶5. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE OPENING SESSION, IZZAT IBRAHIM AND SHEIKH SAAD AL-ABDALLAH HELD A CLOSED SESSION ALONE. AFTER APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS, HAMMADI AND ALI HASSAN AL-MAJID (MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT) JOINED THE IRAQI SIDE WHILE NASSER AL-SABAH AND DARI ABDALLAH AL-OTHTMAN REPORTEDLY JOINED THE KUWAITI SIDE. NO OFFICIAL STATEMENTS WERE MADE AFTER YESTERDAY'S ROUND OF TALKS. THE TALKS EVIDENTLY ARE CONTINUING. ONE SOURCE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THEY WILL COMPLETE THEIR WORK TODAY, HOWEVER.

¶6. KING FAHD GAVE A DINNER IN HONOR OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS AT AL-HAMRA GUEST PALACE. CROWN PRINCE ABDALLAH; PRINCE ABDULRAHMAN BIN ABDULAZIZ; PRINCE MITTEB; PRINCE BADR; PRINCE FAWWAZ AND PRINCE MAJID (ALL BROTHERS OF THE KING) ATTENDED THE DINNER.

17. SAUDI PRESS COMMENTS

SAUDI PRESS EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON THE JEDDAH MEETING WERE HEAVY ON RHETORIC. WRITERS HEAPED PRAISE ON THE "HISTORIC" ROLE OF KING FAHD FOR PAVING THE WAY FOR THE MEETING RATHER THAN COMMENTING ON THE DISPUTE ITSELF. EXCERPTS FROM TODAY'S EDITORIALS:

AL-NADWA

WE ARE QUITE CONFIDENT THAT THE KUWAITI AND IRAQI BROTHERS, WHO ARE WELL-KNOWN FOR THEIR CONSTRUCTIVE ROLES IN SEEING THE ISSUES OF THEIR NATION WILL NOT PERMIT THE CONSPIRATORS TO INTERFERE IN THE DISPUTES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SO AS TO INFLATE SUCH A DISPUTE. WE MUST UNDERLINE THAT ARAB NATION AS A WHOLE ATTACHES GREAT HOPES TO THE JEDDAH BROTHERLY MEETING. THE ARAB NATION IS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE IRAQI-KUWAITI DISPUTE.

AL-YAUM

THE JEDDAH MEETING IS A PRACTICAL STEP FOR BYPASSING ALL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO BROTHERS IRAQ AND KUWAIT. THIS STEP WILL DEFINITELY LEAD TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AMBITIONS OF THE ARAB LEADERS FOR KEEPING THE ARAB NATION AWAY FROM ANY DIFFERENCES THAT MIGHT IMPEDE THE PROCESS OF ARAB SOLIDARITY.

AL-JAZEERA

HOSTING BY THE KINGDOM OF THE JEDDAH MEETING, AS SHEIKH ABDALLAH PUT IT, CONFIRMS THE PERMANENT INTEREST OF THE KINGDOM IN PLAYING ITS PIONEERING HISTORIC ROLE TO CONFRONT ALL ISSUES OF THE ARAB AND ISLAMIC NATIONS AND TO WORK SERIOUSLY FOR UNIFICATION OF THE WORD OF THIS NATION.

AL-JAZEERA, JASSER AL-JASSER

THE QUICK POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE EFFORTS OF THE ARAB LEADERS FOR CONTAINMENT OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT POINTS OUT TWO FACTS: STRENGTH OF THE ARAB TIES AND CONFIDENCE OF THE ARAB NATION IN THE PRUDENCE OF ITS LEADERS.

18. AL-RIYADH DAILY QUOTED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS FROM THE IRAQI AND KUWAITI NEWSPAPERS:

AL-QABAS (KUWAIT)

ALL SINCERE ARABS, IN THE FOREFRONT BEING THE PEOPLE OF KUWAIT, HOLD GREAT HOPE THAT THE JEDDAH MEETING WOULD BE THE MOTIVE FOR CONSOLIDATING THE BROTHERLY TIES BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE WORLD WILL COME TO KNOW THAT OUR NATION IS CAPABLE OF WORKING OUT ITS PROBLEM BY ITSELF.

AL-RAI AL-AAM (KUWAIT)

ALL EYES ARE SET ON JEDDAH HOPING FOR SUCCESS OF THE IRAQ-KUWAIT MEETING. THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN KUWAIT AND IRAQ WERE TRANSIENT AND WE ARE SURE THAT THE JEDDAH MEETING WILL BE A SUCCESSFUL ONE.

AL-QADESEYA (IRAQ)

IRAQ RESPONDED TO THE JEDDAH MEETING IN ORDER TO PRESERVE

THE HIGHER ARAB INTERESTS AND IN APPRECIATION TO THE EFFORTS OF THE ARAB LEADERS. THE PAPER POINTED OUT THAT THE MEETING BETWEEN IRAQ AND KUWAIT IS A CHANCE FOR LIQUIDATING THE DIFFERENCES AND BEEFING UP THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

19. BBC ARABIC SERVICE REPORTED JULY 31 THAT IRAQI PRESS LAUNCHED A VEHEMENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST KUWAIT AND SAID AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT IRAQ'S INTERESTS ARE ABOVE ARAB SOLIDARITY.

DUNFORD